

**BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
)	
Big River Telephone Company, LLC)	
)	
Application for Global Authority Pursuant to)	File No. ITC-214-2001-_____
Section 214 of the Communications Act)	
of 1934, as amended, to Operate as an)	
International Facilities-Based and Resale Carrier)	
Between the United States and)	
International Points)	
)	

APPLICATION

Big River Telephone Company, LLC (“Big River”), by its undersigned counsel, hereby requests authority pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the “Act”), 47 U.S.C. § 214, and Section 63.18 of the Commission’s Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.18, to provide global international facilities-based and resale telecommunications services between the United States and international points.

I. The Applicant

Big River is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Big River is not a foreign carrier and is not affiliated within the meaning of Section 63.09(e) of the Commission’s rules, with a foreign carrier, as defined in Section 63.09(e) of the Commission’s rules, nor is Big River affiliated with any dominant U.S. carriers whose international services Big River will resell. Big River should, therefore, be classified as a nondominant carrier for the provision of the services for which authority is requested in this Application. Furthermore, Big River is eligible for streamlined processing pursuant to Section 63.12 of the Commission’s Rules because Section 63.12(c)(1)-(3) does not apply to Big River.

II. Public Interest Considerations

Big River believes that the added competition its entry will bring to the market will benefit the consumers of United States international services. These benefits include competitive pricing and increased availability of a variety of service options. Therefore, granting this Application will further the public interest.

III. Information Required by Section 63.18

Big River submits the following information, as required by Section 63.18 of the Commission's Rules, in support of its request for Section 214 Authorization:

- (a) Big River Telephone Company, LLC
24 S. Minnesota Avenue
Cape Girardeau, MO 63072
Telephone: (573) 651-5298
Facsimile: (573) 651-3605
- (b) Big River is a limited liability company formed under the laws of the State of Delaware.
- (c) Correspondence concerning this Application should be sent to:

Kevin D. Minsky, Esq.
Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP
3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20007-5116
Telephone: (202) 424-7500
Facsimile: (202) 424-7645

With a copy to:

Gerard J. Howe, President and CEO
Big River Telephone Company, LLC
24 S. Minnesota Avenue
Cape Girardeau, MO 63072
Telephone: (573) 651-5298
Facsimile: (573) 651-3605

Questions concerning Big River's ongoing operations following certification should be directed to:

Jody Simmons, Customer Service
24 South Minnesota Avenue
Cape Girardeau, MO 63702
Telephone: (573) 651-5298
Facsimile: (573) 651-3605

- (d) Big River has not previously received authority under Section 214 of the Act. Upon grant of this Application, Big River will become an authorized, non-dominant facilities-based carrier and reseller with global authority, pursuant to Section 214 of the Act and the Commission's rules.
- (e) Big River requests global facilities-based and resale Section 214 authority pursuant to the terms and conditions of Section 63.18(e)(1) and (e)(2) of the Commission's Rules. Big River requests such authorization for all international routes authorized by the Commission. Big River certifies that it will comply with the terms and conditions of Sections 63.21, 63.22 and 63.23 of the Commission's Rules.
- (f) Big River seeks the authority to provide only the services referenced under paragraph (e) of Section 63.18 of the Commission's Rules.
- (g) Given that Big River is not seeking to acquire facilities or provide services pursuant to Section 63.18(e)(4) of the Commission's Rules, this Section is not applicable.
- (h) Information regarding Big River's 10% or greater direct or indirect members/owners is as follows:

Name: Gerard J. Howe
Address: 16650 Chesterfield Grove Rd., Suite 110
Chesterfield, MO 63005
Percentage Held: 33.3%
Citizenship: U.S.
Principal Business: Telecommunications Executive

Name: John Brooks
Address: 16650 Chesterfield Grove Rd., Suite 110
Chesterfield, MO 63005
Percentage Held: 33.3%
Citizenship: U.S.
Principal Business: Telecommunications Entrepreneur

Name: Kevin Cantwell
Address: 24 S. Minnesota Avenue
Cape Girardeau, MO 63072
Percentage Held: 33.3%
Citizenship: U.S.
Principal Business: Telecommunications Executive

Big River reports that it does not have any interlocking directorates with foreign carriers.

- (i) Big River certifies that it is not a foreign carrier. In addition, Big River certifies that it is not affiliated with a foreign carrier within the meaning of Section 63.09(e).
- (j) Big River certifies that it does not seek to provide international telecommunications services to any destination country for which the provisions of Section 63.18(j) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.18(j), are true.
- (k) Big River has not listed any countries in response to paragraph (j). Therefore the requirements of paragraph (k) do not apply to Big River.
- (l) For the reasons set forth in paragraph (i), the requirements of paragraph (l) do not apply to Big River.
- (m) For the reasons set forth in paragraph (i), the requirements of paragraph (m) do not apply to Big River.
- (n) Big River certifies that it has not agreed to accept special concessions, as defined in Section 63.14(b) of the Commission's Rules, directly or indirectly from any foreign carrier, as defined in Section 63.09(d) of the Commission's Rules, with respect to any U.S. international route where the foreign carrier possesses sufficient market power on the foreign end of the route to affect competition adversely in the U.S. market, and will not enter into such agreements in the future.
- (o) Big River certifies, pursuant to Sections 1.2001 through 1.2003 of the Commission's Rules (implementing the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 3301), that no party to this Application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.
- (p) Big River requests streamlined processing of this Application pursuant to Section 63.12 of the Commission's Rules. This Application qualifies for streamlined processing because Big River has no foreign affiliations, has no affiliation with a dominant U.S. carrier whose international switched or private line services Big River seeks authority to resell, and does not seek authority to provide switched basic services over private lines to a country for which the Commission has not previously authorized the provision of such services.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Big River respectfully submits that the public interest, convenience, and necessity would be furthered by a grant of this Section 214 Application.

Respectfully Submitted,

BIG RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC

By: _____

Kevin D. Minsky, Esq.
Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP
3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20007-5116
Telephone: (202) 424-7500
Facsimile: (202) 424-7645

Counsel for Big River Telephone Company, LLC

Dated: September 20, 2001

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANT

On behalf of Big River Telephone Company, LLC, I hereby certify that the statements in the foregoing Application for Section 214 authority are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and in good faith.

Big River Telephone Company, LLC

By: _____
Name: Gerard J. Howe
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: September 20, 2001